70th Annual
Ypsilanti Independence Day Parade

Saturday, July 3, 1999 • 11 a.m.

Michigan Avenue, Downtown Ypsilanti

American Legion Post 282 • 117 S. Huron

American Legion Post 282

Commander	Cliff Arnott
Sr. Vice Commander	J. J. Mraz
Jr. Vice Commander	Charlie Little
Adjutant	Ray Williams
Finance Officer	Nelson O'Bryan
Service Officer	Richard "Ernie" Mansfield
Historian	Charles Irvin
Sgt. Arms	Jimmy Marshall

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 282

President	Judy Arnott
Vice President	Linda Cole
Secretary	Marie Hiler
Sgt. Arms	Ellen Irvin
Chaplain	Ruth Ann Hewitt
Historian	Marion O'Bryan

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 282

Commander	Tyke Eccleston
Sr. Vice Commander	Todd Hendricks
Jr. Vice Commander	Eric Williams
Adjutant	Rob LaClair
Historian	Aaron Hendricks
Finance Officer	Ed Wooten
Sgt. Arms	Gary McGough
Chaplain	Rob LaClair

A Special Section of the Ypsilanti Courier • Thursday, July 1, 1999

Parade Lineup

Type of unit	Name of unit
Individual (police car	Ypsilanti Police Department
Police Car	EMU Public safety
Patrol car	Michigan State Police
Color guard	Vietnam Veterans of America
Color guard	VVA Chapter 310
Color guard	Wolverine Chapter, 82nd Airborne Div.
Marching nonmusica	Tri-Service Color Guard
Color guard	Wash Cnty Marine Corp League Honor Guard
	Wash Cnty Marine Corp League Honor Guard
	Wash Cnty Marine Corp. League Honor Guard
	Wash Cnty Marine Corp. League Honor Guard.
Float	American Legion Post 282
Walking group	American Legion Post 282 Auxiliary
Individual (Auto)	Grand Marshall - Post 282
Flag	EMU Summer Insitute
Car	VFW #4076 Persian Gulf Command
Antique car	1931 Phaeton
Individual (Auto)	Parade Theme contest winner
Float	Voiture 957
Marching group	Sons of U Vets of the Civil War
Horse unit	Wash Cnty Buffalo Soldiers
Antque vehicle	Model T Ford Club
Antque vehicle	Buick
Individual	Statue of Liberty
Marching Band	Lincoln HIgh School
Individual	DAR
Antique fire truck	Meijer Antique Truck
Marine	Wash Cnty Shrff Dept.
Auto	Sheriff Dept. - DARE
Motorcycles	Wash Cnty Sheriff Dept.
Clown	Pokadot the clown
Antique vehicle	Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce
Float	Ypsi Township Board
Antque vehicle	Rolling Relics
Antique vehicle	Floyd Bryan
Walking group	YPD Middle School Police Academy
Walking group	Girl Scout Troop 1459
	Girl Scout Troop 1500
	Girl Scout Troop 422
	Girl Scout Troop 794
	Girl Scout Troop 825
	Girl Scout Troop 817
	Girl Scout Troop 1262
	Girl Scout Troop 1296
	Girl Scout Troop 96
	Girl Scout Troop 102
	Girl Scout Troop 165
	Girl Scout Troop 236
	Girl Scout Troop 240
	Girl Scout Troop 323
	Girl Scout Troop 415
	Girl Scout Troop 633
	Girl Scout Troop 773
	Girl Scout Troop 1520
Marching non-music	Pack 283 Cub Scouts
Walking group	Boy Scout Troop 240
Antque vehicle	Ypsilanti Auto Heritage Museum
Bagpipe band	Windsor Police Pipe Band
Antque vehicle	1941 Ambulance
	1968 Powerwagon
	1966 Troop carrier
Float	Optimist Club of Ypsi
Antique Fi (1955 lad	Heritage Fire Co.
1925 Fire truck	
Marching musical	Frontier Lodge #1681
Military jeep	M151-A2
Bicycle decorating c	Citizens Bank
Antque vehicle	28 Ford, 68 Chev truck, 72 El Camino
Antique fire truck	YFD

(See LINEUP, Page 15)

Independence Day

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Joe Sesi chosen to be marshal of Independence Day Parade

Joe Sesi, owner of Sesi Lincoln Mercury and nephew of the late Joe Sesi, the founder of the dealership, is grand marshal of the Independence Day Parade this year, a tribute to the late Mr. Sesi and the Sesi family.

"I'm just honored," Joe Sesi said. "I certainly wasn't expecting it, but I'm pleased and honored to be able to do that. To stand in his place is just great."

The Independence Day Parade first picked Mrs. Sesi, but illness prevented her from serving as the Grand Marshal.

Mr. Sesi, who died in February, was called Uncle Joe by many in the Ypsilanti area, and supported civic efforts like the parade.

There are some constants in the Independence Day Parade, favorites who come back every year, and there are some new participants, as the parade grows.

One of the constants the last few years has been the **Williams and Kraut families.**

SESI

They are the relatives of Charlie and Maxine Kraut, homicide victims in 1993.

The murder remains unsolved, but their relatives will keep their memory alive in the Independence Day Parade, wearing T-shirts with pictures of the slain couple.

Lucille Coleman, 49, Maxine's sister, organizes the Williams family to march in the parade every year. About 50 people from the Kraut and Williams family take part.

"I came up with the idea because we had a sister and brother-in-law who were murdered," she said. "We do it in memory of them. ... The first year, it was a lot of work, a lot of heartache."

Two favorites, back again, are the pipe bands.

One is the Windsor Police Pipe Band, a bagpipe band from Windsor which is made up of two police officers, other Windsor area residents and still others who travel great distances to be part of the band.

The band was formed in 1967, and remains an important part of Windsor and Essex County, performing at civic and charitable events in the Windsor area, throughout Ontario and the United States and Great Britain.

The pipe band, dressed in Red

(See SESI, Page 12)

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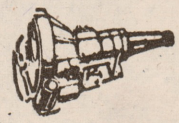
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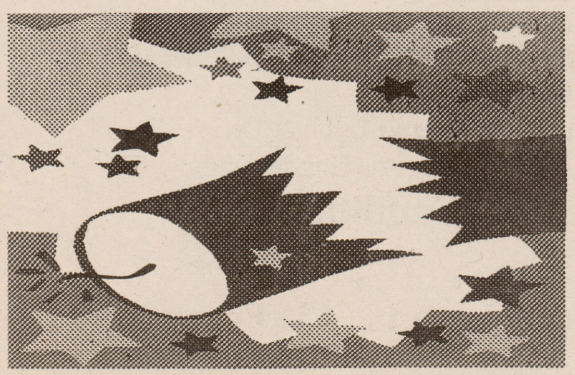
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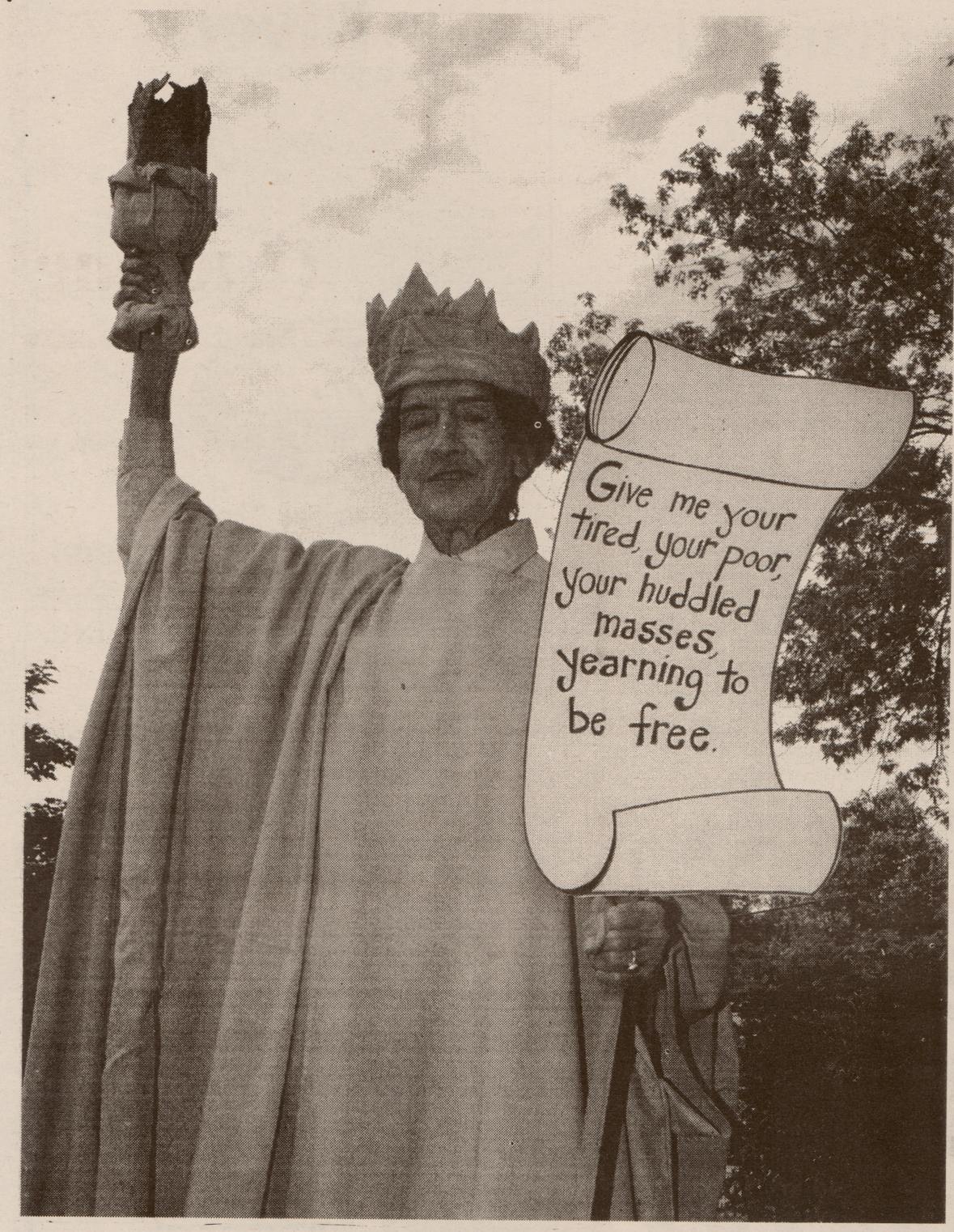

Betty Wier will walk as Lady Liberty in the Independence Day Parade.

Lady Liberty to be in parade

By LESA INGRAHAM
Courier Special Writer

The Statue of Liberty in the Independence Day Parade will look familiar to those who have watched the parade over the years.

It is the costume worn by Doris Mida in the parade, before she died.

"She was a very caring and loving person," said Mida's twin sister Betty Wier. "She had lots of good friends and impacted many people's lives."

Wier will be returning to the Independence Day parade as the Statue of Liberty.

Mida, as many Ypsilanti residents remember, was a very active member of the community. She was extremely active in the American Legion Post 282.

She wrote a column for the now-closed Ypsilanti Press on clubs, going to many meetings of Kiwanis, Rotary and Optimists clubs.

"Doris and her son Billy used to use a tandem bike," said Wier. "They would be in the (Independence Day) parade as Raggedy Ann and Andy, clowns, Cinderella, and one year Doris was Snow White and our grandchildren were the seven dwarfs."

Mida was a part of the parade for more than 40 years.

"It started when she got involved with the American Legion, where she was a member of the Women's Auxiliary. She used to help make floats," Wier said. "I marched with her for probably 30 years. I was always the Statue of Liberty, but her costumes changed, but they were always

(See LIBERTY, Page 16)

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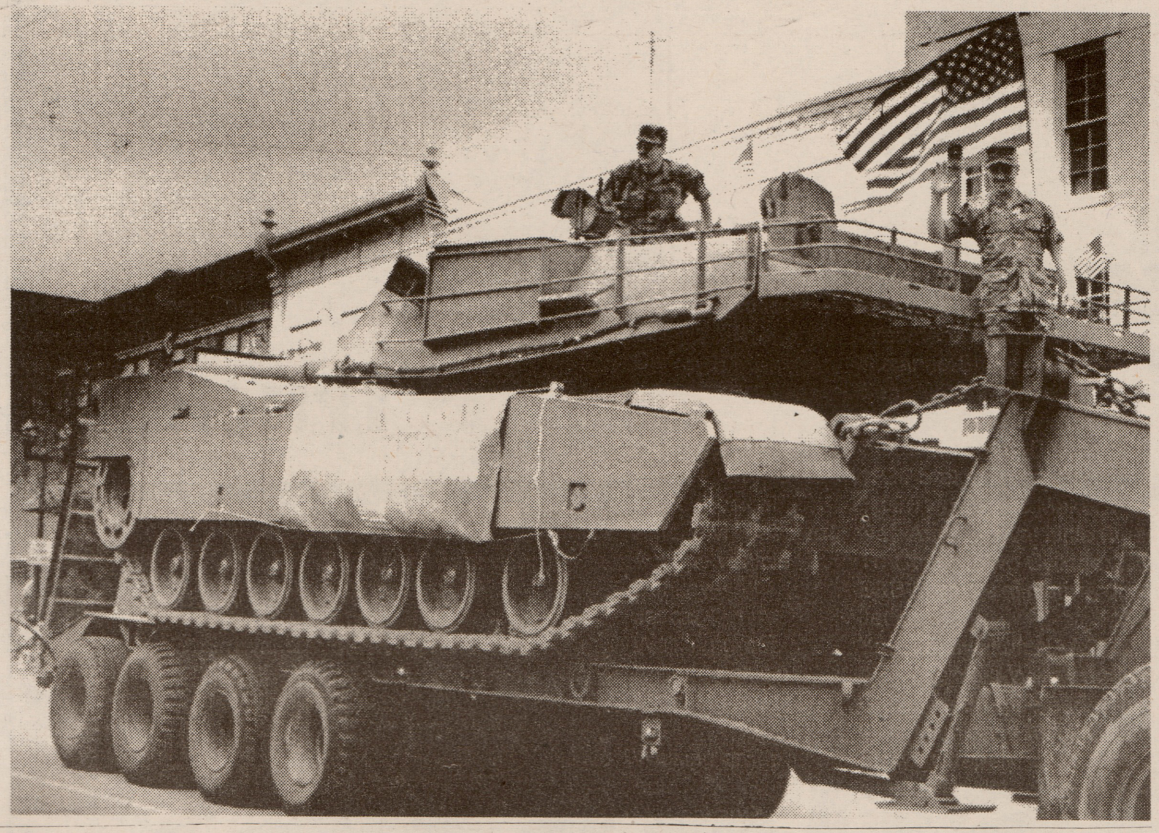


The Abrams M1 tank is returning to the parade this year.

Abrams tank will be part of parade again this year

By MARK DROUILLARD
Courier Special Writer

This year, spectators can expect to see 60 tons of American pride rolling down Michigan Avenue, when the Abrams M1 tank returns to the parade route for the second year in a row.

The tank, provided by way of the 156th Signal Battalion of the National Guard, is brought in from Fort Custer in Battle Creek. It's primarily used for training, but can be deployed if needed. It has been equipped with rubber pads to run on hard surfaces, which makes it ideal for parades.

According to Sgt. Vance Meads, a recruiter for the National Guard and the person responsible for getting the tank, it's hard to track the history of the vehicle.

"More than likely it has seen action. Most vehicles we use have," he said.

He said that obtaining the tank is a lot of work. It is brought into town two days prior to the parade and will most likely be kept behind Chapelle Elementary School, where 24-hour security watches over it. The public is invited to view the tank and take pictures.

Wes Prater, the parade organizer, said the idea came out of American Legion Post 282, when they were looking for something unique to include.

Last year, the tank was a hit with parade goers.

"Everybody I talked to just thought that it was a great addition to the parade," Prater said.

Last year, the tank was loaded onto a truck to carry it across the bridge on Michigan Avenue, but Prater said it will cross on its own power this time.

He said the bridge can handle two gravel trucks loaded with 80,000 pounds going each way, so the 60,000-pound tank will not do any damage.

"I think it was a misunderstanding by MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation)," he said.

According to Prater, the parade, which is in its 70th year, is one of the oldest in the nation. He credits the American Legion for making it such a success.

"I find it delightful working with the American Legion. With the attitudes they have, we're going to make it to 140."

Antique tractors will roll down Michigan

Robert Graichen has been farming all his life, and at 68 still works his 350-acre farm in Superior Township.

He'll retire "when I can't do this any more. As long as I can keep moving, I like this."

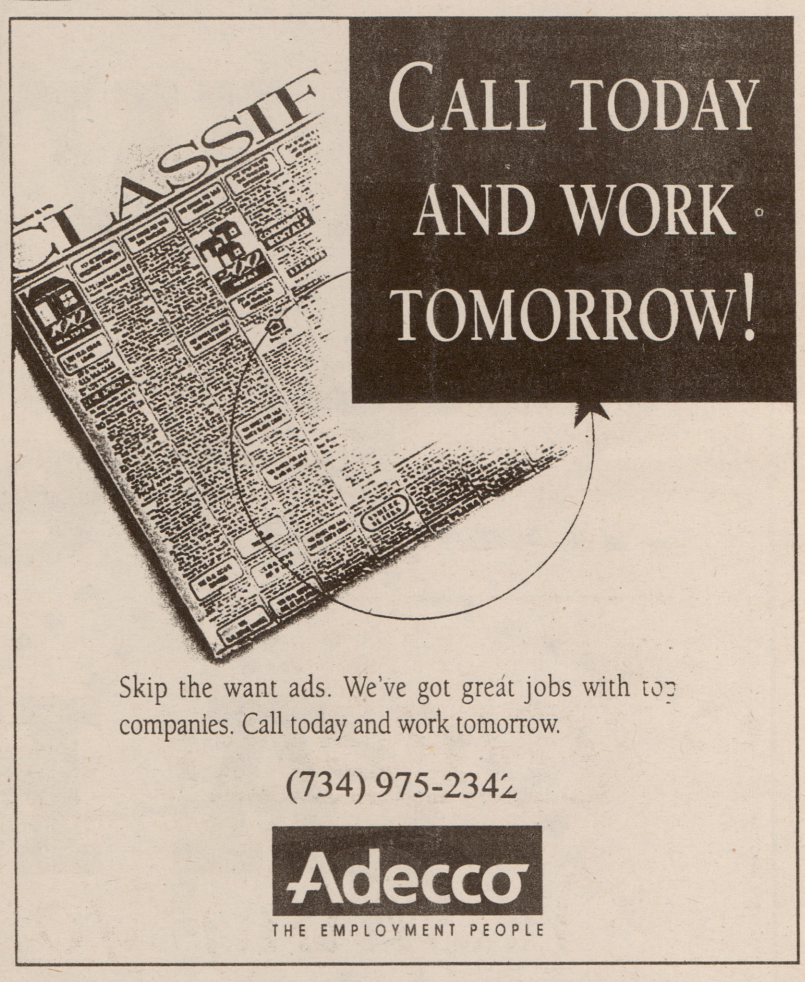
Graichen, and a few other members of the Tri-County Two-Cylinder Club will be driving antique tractors in the Independence Day Parade.

This is the first year for Graichen and the antique tractors. He was asked to take part last year, but late in the year. This year the request came earlier, and he is taking part.

He is in the Heritage Festival Parade every year, he said.

The club has it's State of Michigan Two-Cylinder Gathering and All Color Show Aug. 27-29 at

(See TRACTOR, Page 14)



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Legion is more than just a veterans' group

By A. P. Marshall
Courier Special Writer

"We Are Community Service," reads a headline in a recent issue of the *Michigan Legionnaire & Wolverine Auxiliaire.*

After talking with outgoing Cmdr. Nelson L. O'Bryan, and incoming Cmdr. Cliff Arnott, the claim proved true. Not only is the "Legion" interested in the welfare of military veterans, but several local endeavors prove a real and devoted concern for the community as well.

Several members, along with Auxiliary members make regular visits to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Ann Arbor, and the organization is a regular supporter of disabled American veterans.

Since 1947, when a special resolution was adopted at a national convention, all posts were put on record as supporters of the American Red Cross Blood Drive.

Harvey C. Colburn, wrote in the closing pages of *The Story of Ypsilanti* (1923): "On January 14, 1920, was organized the Ypsilanti Post of the American Legion, which has since continued to be of large value to its members both in a material way and also in preserving the sense of comradeship born of common war experiences."

The Legion promotes patriotism, and especially a love and respect for the United States flag. For several years it has supported legislation which would prohibit any kind of desecration for this symbol.

All its programs are geared toward strengthening allegiances to the country and the four branches of military service.

The American Legion was founded in Paris, France March 15-17, 1919 by delegates from combat units of the American Expeditionary Force, and was chartered by the U. S. Congress on Sept. 16, 1919. The charter was amended in 1942 to admit veterans of World War II, in 1950 to admit Korean War veterans, and again in 1966 to admit Vietnam War veterans.

The organization is nonpolitical and nonsectarian. Requirements for admission are: an honorable service record and an honorable discharge from either of the four services. Annual conventions of the Legion are among the largest volunteer group meetings in the United States.

Headquarters are in Indianapolis, Ind.

A constant watch is kept to assure the care and treatment of disabled and sick veterans.

The Legion bore much of the responsibility for the establishment of hospitals and other services to World War I veterans, and those have been expanded to meet the needs of veterans of later wars.

Compensation and pensions for disabled veterans as well as widows and orphans is a constant concern..

In 1930 the Legion campaigned for the establishment of the U. S. Veterans Administration which occurred in 1944.

It strongly supported passage of the GI Bill of Rights for veterans of World War II, as well

(See LEGION, Page 9)

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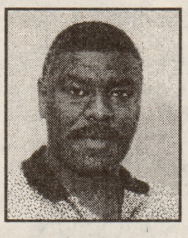
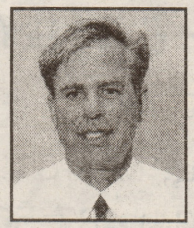

Darryl Horton

Harold Goble

Louis Richardson

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Bill Hammonds

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Marc Rinke

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Band taking its music on parade

By LESA INGRAHAM
Courier Special Writer

Opening their practice, in the senior room of the Ypsilanti Community Center, with a moving "Star Spangled Banner," the Ypsilanti Township Music Makers displayed exceptional exuberance and dedication.

With roughly 20 volunteer members, including violins, harmonicas, guitars, vocalists, dancing dolls, a tap dancer and one "huba bubba" (two metal tubs, a broom stick and a string), the group brings cheer to themselves and others.

"We go wherever they ask us," said vocalist Genny Debens. With multiple performances each week, the Music Makers bring cheer to nursing and retirement homes, weddings and even Jackson Prison.

The members are all senior citizens, although it is hard to tell.

(See BAND, Page 16)

Veterans to fly over parade

Dick Alexander, who flew B-24 bombers in the Pacific during World War II, is putting together a flyover as part of the Independence Day Parade.

While the participants will be flying civilian instead of military planes, the most significant aspect of the flyover is that Alexander was recruiting other World War II veteran pilots to participate in the event.

Late last week, Alexander, 79, of Milan, said he was not sure how many pilots would be participating, but he definitely planned to fly over the parade route in his Cessna 172 Skyhawk, and he said he expected to have other pilots involved.

Alexander, who has been flying since 1937, flew 27 bombing missions in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

Alexander was part of the four-squadron 90th Bomb Group, which was formed at Willow Run. He remained in the Air Force and the Air Force Reserves for 28 years.

At the end of the war, Alexander said he was stationed on Ieshima, an island north of Okinawa.

"We were just happy to see those atomic bombs go down," said Alexander. "The Japanese were set to defend their island to the last person, and we would have been gone too."

At the end of the war, Alexander said he flew a B-24 back to the United States from Okinawa, and he has continued to fly ever since, including stints as both a flight instructor and an airline pilot.

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JUNE - FROG ISLAND FESTIVAL IN FROG ISLAND PARK
JULY - INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE IN DOWNTOWN
AUGUST - HERITAGE FESTIVAL AND PARADE IN RIVERSIDE PARK

Legion

(Continued from Page 7)

as the extension of similar rights to veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Cmdr. Arnott pointed out "after the establishment of the Ypsilanti Post (No. 282), we have earned our place as one of the best in the state.

Not only have we provided a recreational outlet for members, but an interest in youth of the community is demonstrated in a number of ways.

During the summers the Ypsilanti post sponsors as many as three baseball teams, and these have earned several trophies.

"R" Donn Newhouse, a longtime member and a past commander, pointed out, "Our Boys State has encouraged many youngsters over the state to develop an interest in politics and government. It is held in Lansing each summer."

The Son's of the American Legion provide opportunities for comradeship and wholesome development.

The American Legion Auxiliary, composed of spouses of Legionnaires, has its own agenda.

An unusual honor came to Judith Arnott when she was elected to serve beside her husband as Commander of Post Auxiliary.

They are known for their Poppy Sales, picnics and box lunches, but also make and distribute lap robes for hospitalized veterans. They scatter the Christmas spirit among needy wives, widows and children.

"We meet just about any need that comes to our attention," according to the Auxiliary Commander.

Parades are a specialty of the Ypsilanti Post.

For Memorial Day the long procession was a good spring outing for viewers.

They soon after started planning another one for Independence Day.

An annual Flag Day burning ceremony provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations to bring old flags to the Post to be destroyed.

When Post 408 was established during World War II, members of Post 282 gave encouragement and assistance.

Mayor Cheryl Farmer believes that, "the American Legion has been good for Ypsilanti, and in return, the city has been proud of its presence."

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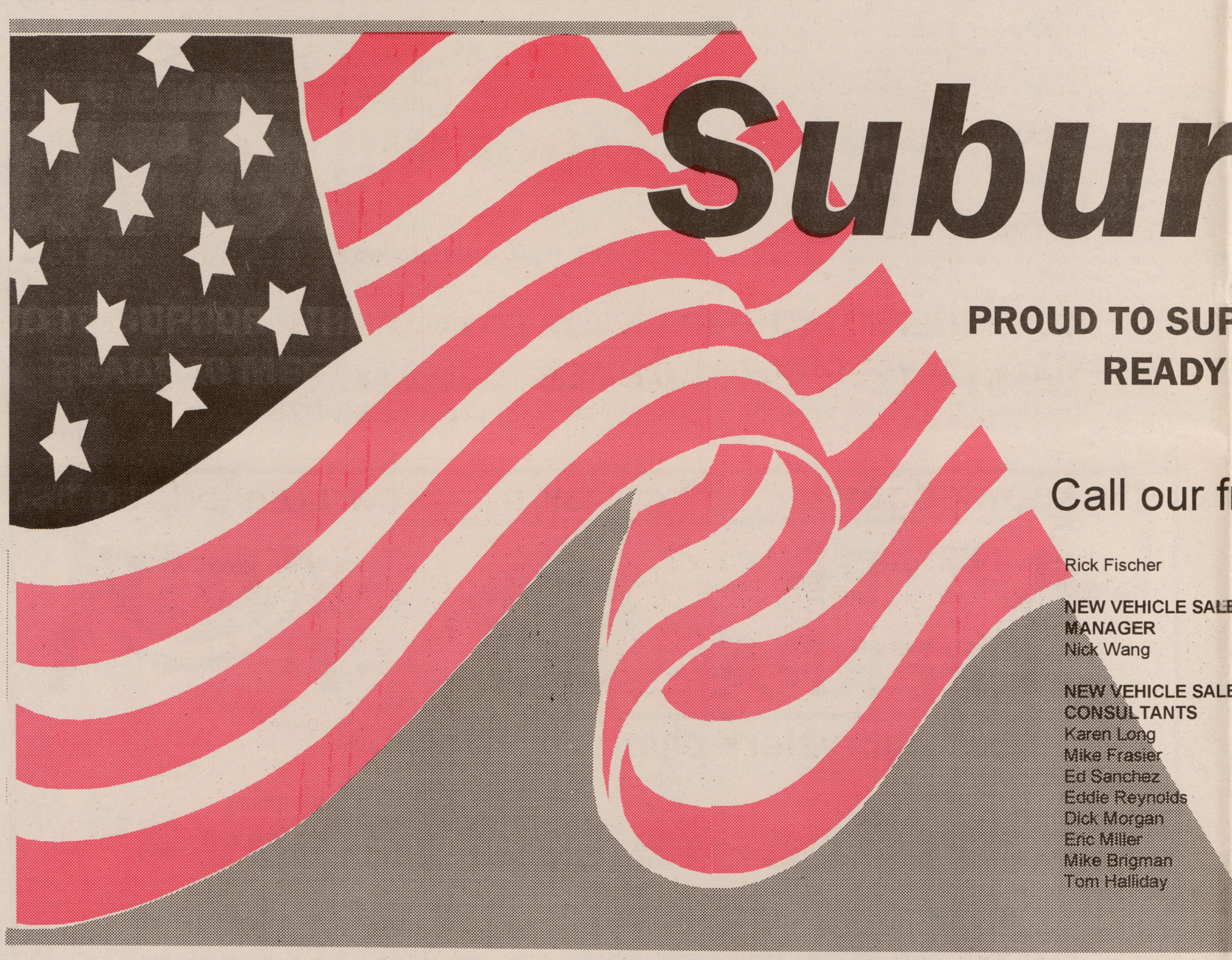

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Randy Carpenter
GMC Sales Manager

Suburban
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Richard Morgan
Sales and Leasing Consultant

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Karen Long
Sales and Leasing Consultant

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Amy Soper	140
Shannon Towianski	141
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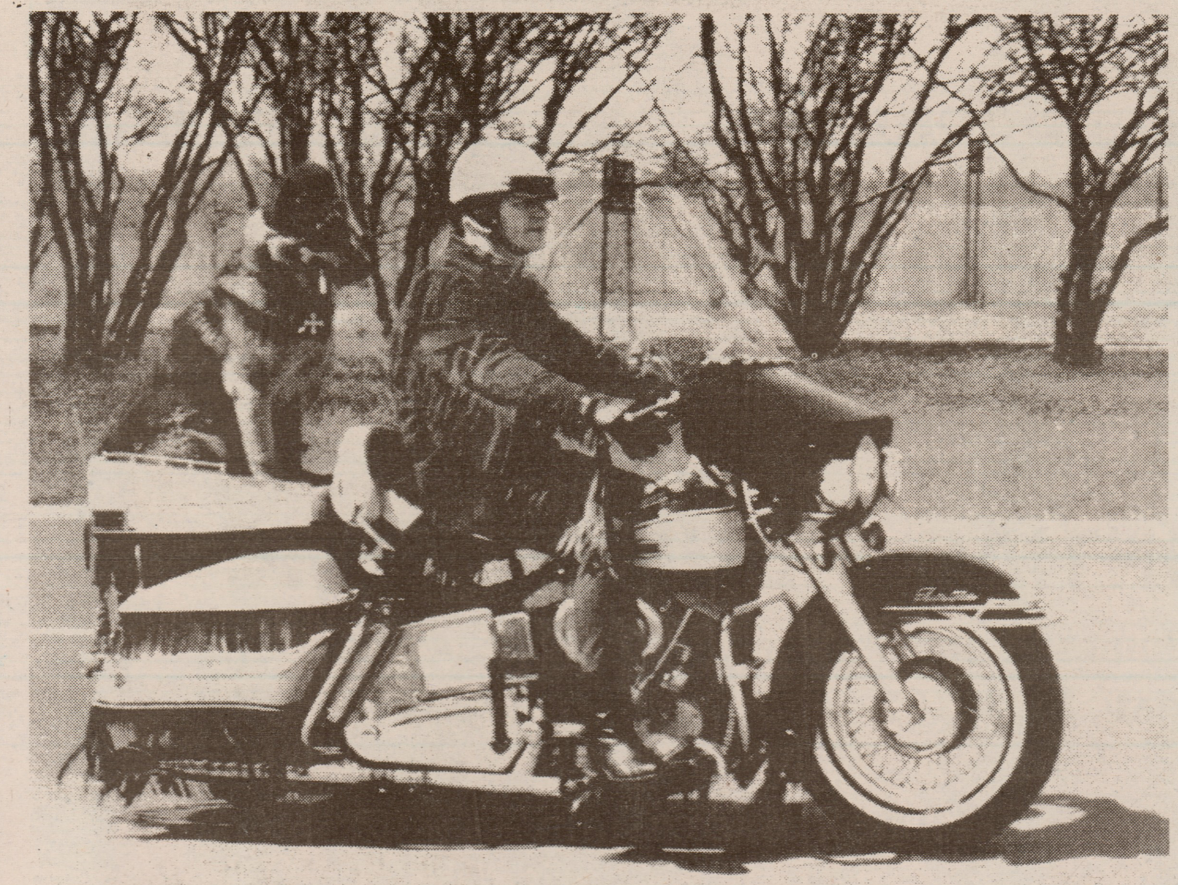

Ricky and owner Wayne Perry.

Easy-riding dog hit with crowds

By JIM KISE
Courier Staff

How does a stray dog, hit by a car and left on the side of the road, end up in the Independence Day Parade?

The dog gets picked up by Wayne Perry.

Perry's motorcycle-riding dogs are a familiar site in the Ypsilanti area, and for the Independence Day Parade this year, Perry will be on his motorcycle, pulling a cart with Rusty riding in back.

Rusty is the third motorcycle-riding dog Perry has owned.

He also has two Model A convertibles, a 1968 show truck and a 1972 El Camino in the parade.

Perry is an old friend of parade coordinator Wes Prater, and entered because Prater called, he said.

Perry with, first, Ricky, then Champ, and now Rusty, has been in a number or parades and the subject of many newspaper stories about his dogs.

It started more than 30 years ago when Perry had a tow truck service in Detroit. Three dogs always went with him on a call. Ricky, a German Shepard, started pawing Perry's motorcycle and tried to jump on with Perry.

The most publicity came when a woman ran into a utility pole, because she was watching Perry and Ricky, and called a Detroit newspaper, trying to track down the dog, to show there was a real reason she ran into the pole.

Champ not only rode on the back of the motorcycle, he wore a Shriner's hat, goggles and smoked a cigarette.

After Ricky came Champ, Ricky's son, who sort of learned to ride from his father.

Rusty is a Labrador retriever, and has been riding motorcycles for about 14 years now.

Rusty "is a gentle dog, not aggressive, loves kids, and is the kind of dog you can leave your babies with and not worry about," Perry said.

Rusty is one of many dogs Perry owns. A dog lover who takes in strays, as Rusty was, Perry said dogs are smart.

Rusty had been hit by a car, and Perry picked him up from the side of the road.

"You'd be surprised what you can teach them," he said.

It is hard to teach dogs to ride, he said.

One man in the Ypsilanti area tried to train a dog to ride on a car, and ended up crashing, going off Ford Boulevard when the dog started sliding off.

Perry, who sells used cars in front of his house on East Michigan, has about 30 other antique cars.

Sesi

(Continued from Page 3)

Gordon Tartan, will be in between entries from the Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum and a 1941 ambulance.

The second pipe band is **Cabar Feidh,** from Dearborn. It is back for a second appearance in the parade.

Last year was the first year for Cabar Feidh, though many members have been in Ypsilanti parades as part of the Birmingham Celtic Band.

Cabar Feidh is positioned between the NAACP and Miss Michigan Petite.

The **Calliope** was popular with traveling shows around the turn of the century, and its organ-like circus music adds an air of gaiety to the parade.

The Calliope in the parade is from Dearborn, and has been completely restored.

It was built about 1900, and is a very rare 53-whistle National, the largest of the air calliopes.

It was owned for many years by the Detroit Edison Co., and used for parades and their special events.

The Calliope is the only musical instrument invented in the United States, in 1855, in Massachusetts.

Before the Civil War, the calliope was used on railroads going west. Eventually, steamboats and showboats became the home for calliopes.

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Wiard's brings 'Cannonball' to parade

Wiard's Orchards, a family owned and operated business, has come a long way after being forced to relocate during World War II.

George Wiard began the orchard in 1853, near what is now Willow Run Airport.

The orchard relocated to Merritt Road when the construction of the Willow Run Bomber plant forced the Wiards to move out.

Today Wiard's operates an orchard, country fair and cider mill, as well as hosting company picnics and outings, a country store and night terrors (haunted Halloween activities).

Wiard's, which serves thousands of people each year, will be entering three antique fire engines and the "Cannonball" (Wiard's train) in the Independence Day Parade.

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www.ypsilanticourier.com

Robert Graichen on one of his antique tractors.

Tractor

(Continued from Page 6)

the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Belleville.

The club was organized in 1992. There are about 10 such clubs in Michigan, he said.

He has eight antique tractors himself, and all of them work. He uses one for light work, but mostly a newer tractor to work his farm. They just aren't as handy, and don't have air conditioning.

The tractors range in age from 69 to 44 years.

He will have two John Deere tractors in the parade, and some other members will come, probably having a total of six of eight, he said.

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3. Small Business Seminars at Reduced Cost - Offered through Washtenaw Community College, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor and the Chamber Staff and held at the Chamber offices.
4. The Open Door Employee Assistance Program & Drugs Don't Work - These innovative programs allow Chamber members to provide confidential outside assistance for troubled employees for as little as $2 to $3 per employee per month.
5. Member To Member Discount Program - All employees of the Chamber member companies are potential customers for your company. As a provider just apply in writing, stating your discount offered. For users $1 buys you your Chamber ID card qualifying you for 50+ companies offering Member to Member Discounts.
6. A Cooperative Advertising/Marketing Campaign - Chamber members receive advertising discounts of up to 50% off normal rates on print & radio advertising in the area. Call the Chamber for details.
7. A Triple Listing in the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce Business Directory - Published annually.
8. Great Opportunities for Networking - The Chamber offers year round networking, for example, the First Tuesday Breakfasts, Chamber Luncheons, Business After Hours, Post Holiday Reception, Washtenaw Business Expo, Economic Club and a variety of commmunities
9. Ypsilanti Business Talk Newsletter - Published monthly and mailed to more than 1,000 businesses and individuals. Chamber Ypsilanti area maps up-to-date with County and EMU maps included.
10. New Benefits being developed continually - Including opportunities to link with Internet & World Wide Web.

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Call 482-4920 for membership information

Lineup

(Continued from Page 2)

Marching musical	Ypsilanti High School Band
Walking group	Ypsilanti City Council
Antique vehicle	Hon. Kirk W. Tabbey
Antique vehicle	Commissioner Ray Schultz
Walking group	Commissioner Craiger
Walking group	Rivers for Congress
Car	Washtenaw County Clerk
Car	Suzanne Shaw - County Commissioner
Car, walker	Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith
Vehicle	Superior Twp.
Individual (Auto)	State Rep. 54th District
Antique vehicle	1929 Stake Truck
Float, musical	Ypsi Twp. Music Makers
Antque vh beautyqu	Nat. Amer. Royal Little Queen
Antique vehicle	Tri-County Two Cylinder Club
Donkeys	B&B Farms - miniature donkeys
Jet car	Jet car
Walking group	Ypsi Willow Run NAACP
Antique vehicle	ACT-SO Ypsi-Willow un NAACP
Marching musical	Cabar Feidh Pipe and Drums
Car	Miss Michigan USA Petite
Walking group	Brown Chapel
Auto	Rubber Ducky
Musical antique vehi	Borsodi Calliope
Float	Ypsi Historical Society/Museum
Bikes & skaters	Yps Rec. Dept.
Horse unit, walking g	Village Kids 4-H club
Antique Fire Truck	Wiard's Orchards
Antique fire truck	
Antique fire truck	
Antique hearse	
Antique fire truck	
Float	New West Willow Neighborhood Assc.
Walking group	WR School Board
Marching Band	WR High School Marching Band
Individual	Miss Washtenaw County
Individual	Huron Valley Ambulance
Mini car	Ali Ashaaf Temple 167
Drill team	
Walking group	HVA of Black Social Workers
Float	Ypsi Area Jaycees
Walking group	Ypsilanti Food Co-op
Musical group	Edmonson Middle School
flags	
float	
Van, walking group	Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels
Dancers	Jazzercise
Bookmobile	Ypsilanti District Library
Walking group	Yps Federal Credit Union
Float	Dress for Success
Truck	Ann Arbor News
Bus and walkers	Transport Workers Union Local 171
Antique vehicle	1951 Chev Couple Delux
Float	Kiwanis Club of Ypsilanti
Marching musical	Emerald Knights Drum and Bugle Corps
Walking group	The Williams Family
Tanks	156 Signal Battalion
Hummer	
Hummer	
Military truck	
Float	Once Upon a Child
Car	Parents Together
Calliope	Flint's Music Makers
Van	Fairfax Manor
	Washtenaw County Road Commission
Vans	Red Cross
Fire Truck	Ypsi Fire Dept.
Fire Truck	Ypsilanti Township Fire Dept.
Smoke House	
Fire Truck	Superior Twp. Fire Dept.
Fire Truck	Augusta Twp. Fire Dept.
Aircraft	flyover

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81 gifted, talented students make up giant American Flag

An American Flag measuring 24 by 40 feet will march down Michigan Avenue in the Independence Day Parade.

The flag isn't one large piece of cloth. It is made up of umbrellas, pieces of cloth and 81 students from Michigan.

The students are gifted and talented high school students attending the Eastern Michigan University Summer Institute.

Dave Gore, co-director of the Summer Institute, said he and co-director Judy Sturgis Hill, another professor at EMU, came up with the idea.

About 120 students will be on campus for the two-week program, over the July 4 weekend.

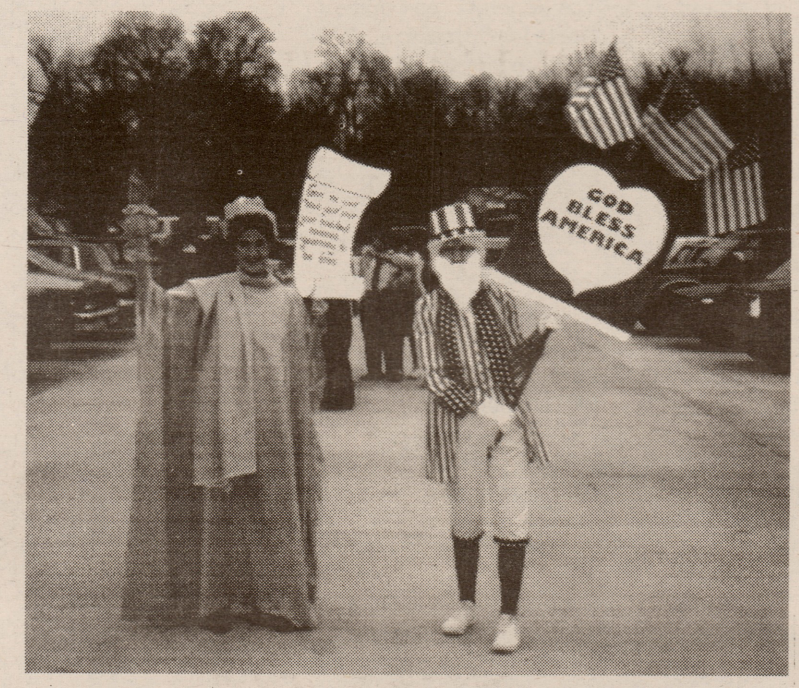
"Since they are here over the Fourth of July weekend, we wanted to do something special, and since part involved academics and part involved service to the community, we decided to institute a bit or patriotism," Gore said. "We thought it was quite appropriate. We wanted to make the Fourth of July weekend special for them."

Stars on the flag are represented by umbrellas with a white star on a blue umbrella.

Banners represent the stripes. For the short stripes, next to the star field, it takes two people to carry the banners.

For the long banners, it takes three people to carry the stripes.

Other students will carry colored balloons and stars as corner points.



Betty Wier and her sister, Doris Mida, who regularly walked in the parade before her death.

Band

(Continued from Page 8)

Gaylord Richardson, a violinist, will be turning 101 in July.

In this year's Independence Day parade, the Music Makers will be performing patriotic music from the different branches of the military.

"We want to recognize them," said pianist Donna Hewitt. "We want them to stand or raise their hands, to be recognized for their service."

The group, led by Hewitt, changes music themes each month, for example a month of Spanish music or Irish music.

In the 1998 parade, the Music Makers received first prize for small floats, and they hope to do as well this year, although competition is not the reason they enter the parade.

"It is this," said Debens. "The practice, the music. This is what makes our day."

Many Thanks &
Congratulations
to the Parade Committee

– Brian Mackie
Washtenaw County
Prosecutor

Liberty

(Continued from Page 4)

very authentic."

In the years preceding her death in 1992, Mrs. Mida marched in a wool uniform, as a World War I soldier.

"Doris always thought that 'if it hadn't been for the veterans, there is a good chance that we may not be free,'" said Wier.

Mida also worked with veterans as a volunteer at the Veteran's Administration Hospital and at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

During her time in the information department at the hospitals, she worked to find transportation and housing for the veterans.

After winning the lottery in 1986, Mida enrolled in Washtenaw Community College, where she earned her degree when she was 60.

"She kept volunteering while she attended school, and it was a big moment for her when she got her degree," said Wier.

"She was a wonderful person, and the reason that I continue to march in the parade is because I want to honor Doris and my country."

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Bagpipes return

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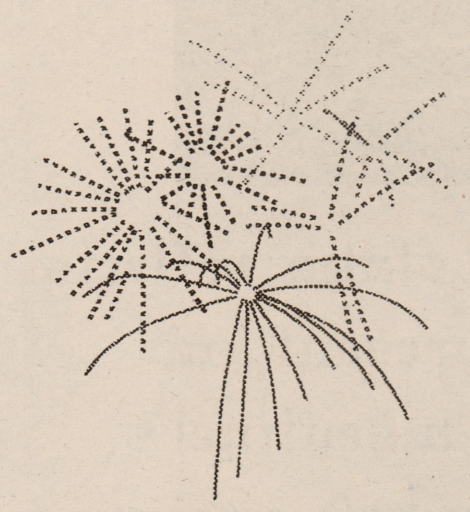

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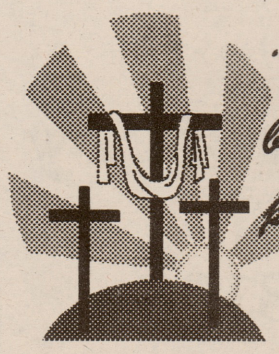
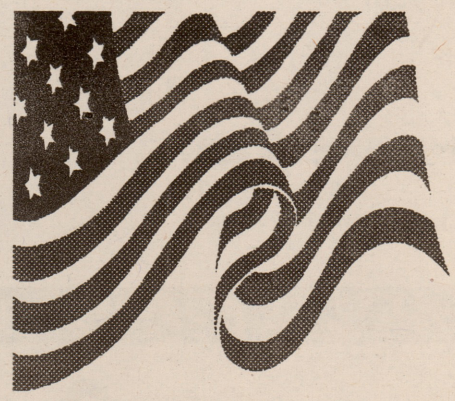


'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'

– JOHN 3:16



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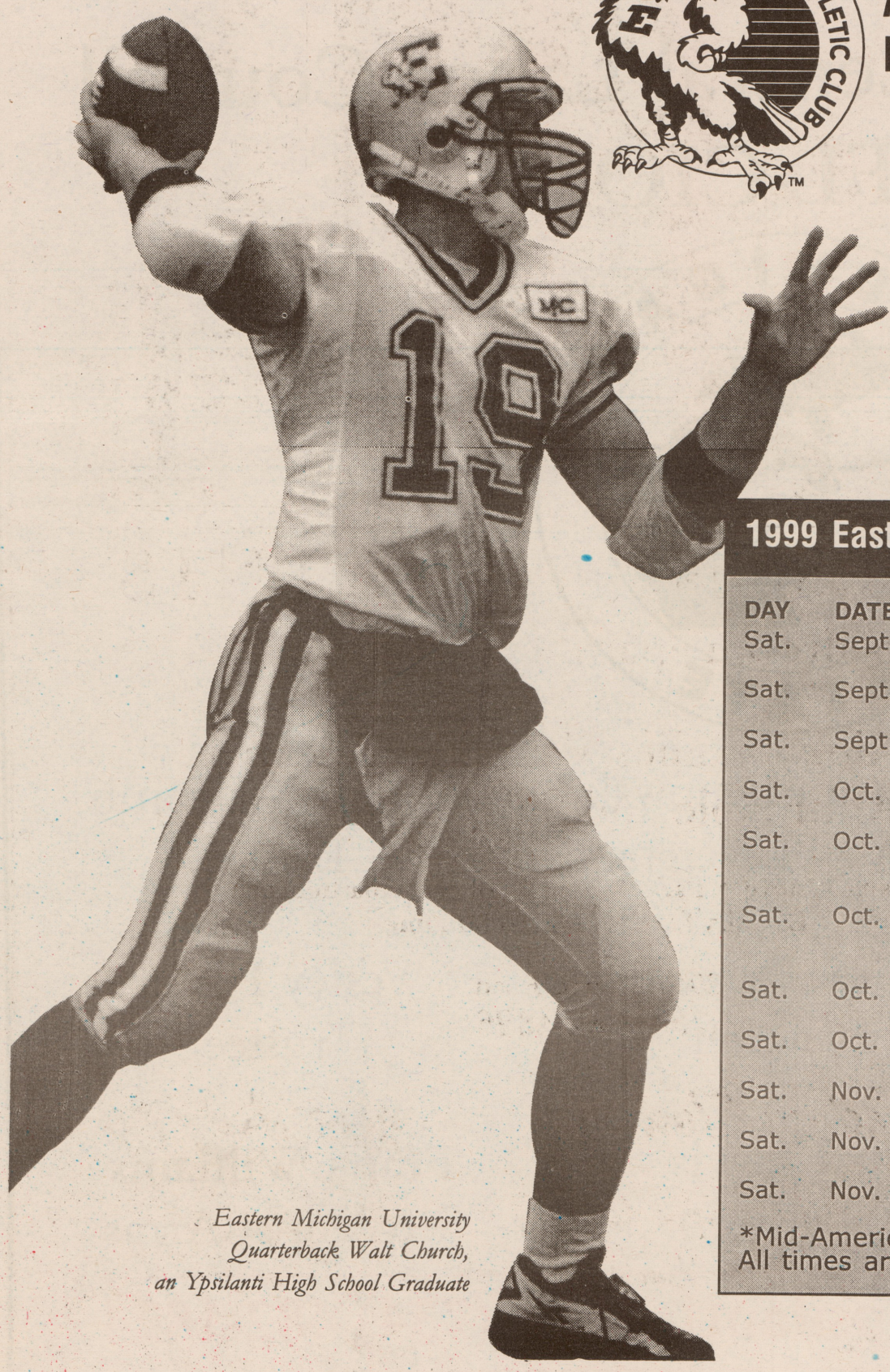

Eastern Michigan University Quarterback Walt Church, an Ypsilanti High School Graduate

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1999 Eastern Michigan Football Schedule

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sat.	Sept. 11	at Michigan State	1 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 18	at Miami*	2 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 25	AKRON* (Band Night)	6 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 2	at Louisville	7 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 9	WESTERN MICHIGAN (HOMECOMING)	6 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 16	OHIO* (Athletic Hall of Fame Game)	6 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 23	at Toledo*	1 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 30	at Central Florida	4 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 6	BALL STATE* (Senior Game)	6 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 13	at Central Michigan*	1 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 20	at Northern Illinois*	2:05 p.m.

*Mid-American Conference Game
All times are site times and subject to change

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